



General Assembly

February Session, 2000

Raised Bill No. 5204

LCO No. 477

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

An Act Concerning The Master Transportation Plan.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 13b-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The commissioner shall develop and revise biennially a
4 comprehensive, long-range, master transportation plan designed to
5 fulfill the present and future needs of the state and to assure the
6 development and maintenance of an adequate, safe and efficient
7 transportation system. In developing the plan, the commissioner shall
8 investigate and study all existing transportation facilities and services
9 in the state and shall examine the feasibility of planning a long-term
10 commercial transportation system, with the goal of coordinating all
11 transportation services, including airports, seaports, rail, freight and
12 transit systems. The commissioner shall give particular consideration
13 to reports and studies prepared under the auspices of the Connecticut
14 interregional planning program relating to the planning and
15 development of the state and any existing reports, surveys, plans or
16 studies relating to transportation prepared for or by any agency of the
17 state.

18 (b) In such plan the commissioner shall: (1) Set forth [his] the
19 commissioner's recommendations for planning, engineering,
20 acquisition of rights-of-way, construction and reconstruction and
21 rehabilitation and modernization of transportation facilities; (2)
22 consider, among other things, federal air quality standards,
23 conservation and cost of energy supplies, present and projected travel
24 volumes, reduction in travel volumes due to the implementation of
25 transportation management programs, safety, maintenance costs and
26 other sufficiency factors where appropriate, as well as long-range land
27 use, environmental impact, energy impact and economic development
28 patterns of the state; (3) indicate the order of priority of need for
29 improvements within each mode of transportation, according to [his]
30 the commissioner's judgment; and (4) indicate the priorities for the
31 next two and five-year periods, both by need and by fiscal capability,
32 in the area of public transportation. The indication of such priorities
33 for public transportation shall include an individual accounting of the
34 amount and source of all funding for each potential program and an
35 approximate timetable, including the starting and completion dates for
36 each potential program.

37 (c) The commissioner shall, relative to the [Intermodal Surface
38 Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991] Transportation Equity Act for
39 the Twenty-First Century: (1) Identify the funds to be received
40 annually in the following categories; interstate construction, interstate
41 maintenance, national highway system, bridge, surface transportation
42 program, interstate transfer, congestion mitigation and air quality,
43 metropolitan planning, special projects and any other category
44 designation under the act; (2) identify the projects to be funded
45 annually through each funding category; (3) identify the projects to be
46 funded annually through each category, as a result of the change in
47 formulas and new flexibility allowed under the [Intermodal Surface
48 Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991] Transportation Equity Act for
49 the Twenty-First Century; (4) identify which projects shall require the
50 expenditure of state funds to leverage federal funds; (5) identify the
51 amount and percentage of state funds [which] that must be expended

52 for each project in order to leverage federal funds; (6) identify the
53 amount of federal funds [which] that may be expended annually to
54 repair local bridges identified as being in poor condition; (7) identify
55 the economic impact of the federal funds allocated to the state in terms
56 of job creation or retention; (8) identify the mass transit projects to be
57 funded; (9) identify the manner in which the department intends to
58 comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended by
59 P.L. 101-549 and how the department intends to expend any funds
60 allocated to the department to achieve the goals of the act and (10)
61 identify with specificity the expenditures to be made from funds
62 received in the congestion mitigation and air quality grant in relation
63 to the needs identified by employers in their compliance plans
64 submitted pursuant to substitute house bill 5659 of the February, 1992,
65 regular session*.

66 (d) In such plan the commissioner shall identify the amount of
67 funds and projects to be undertaken pursuant to the Americans with
68 Disabilities Act of 1990.

69 (e) The plan shall be completed and submitted biennially to the
70 Governor on or before January thirty-first of each odd-numbered year.
71 The commissioner shall, biennially, on or before January thirty-first of
72 each odd-numbered year, notify all members of the General Assembly
73 of the availability of the plan. [A member requesting a plan shall be
74 sent] The commissioner shall send a written copy or electronic storage
75 media of the plan [by the commissioner] to any member requesting a
76 plan.

77 (f) In developing and revising the plan, the commissioner may: (1)
78 Conduct public hearings; (2) consult and cooperate with officials and
79 representatives of the federal government, neighboring states,
80 interstate commissions and authorities, local agencies and authorities,
81 interested corporations and other organizations concerning problems
82 affecting transportation in the state; (3) request and receive from any
83 agency or other unit of the government of the state or of any political

84 subdivision [thereof] of the state, or from any public authority, such
85 assistance and data as may be necessary to enable the commissioner to
86 carry out [his] the commissioner's responsibilities under this section;
87 (4) to the extent [he] the commissioner may deem appropriate, make
88 use of, and incorporate in the plan, any existing long-range
89 transportation plan, survey or report developed by any public or
90 private agency or person; and (5) employ consultants.

91 (g) Copies of the plan, as revised, shall be kept on file as a public
92 record in the office of the commissioner.

93 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 13b-16 of the general statutes is
94 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

95 (a) On or before September first annually, the commissioner shall
96 conduct and complete an investigation and study of the several modes
97 of transportation in the state, in which [he] the commissioner shall
98 evaluate the adequacy of the facilities and services connected with
99 each such mode, and shall determine the needs of the state
100 transportation system. The commissioner shall consult with the
101 Connecticut Public Transportation Commission which shall advise the
102 commissioner in matters pertaining to rail and motor carrier facilities
103 and services. The studies shall be used in the [annual] biennial revision
104 of the comprehensive long-range master transportation plan.

Statement of Purpose:

To delete references to the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, which has been superceded by the federal Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century, and to make a technical correction clarifying that the Commissioner of Transportation's development and revision of a comprehensive, long-range master transportation plan must occur biennially instead of annually.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]